

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. In an Office Action mailed October 3, 2007, Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over, Hansen (U.S. Pat. No. 5,330,827). By the present Amendment, Applicants amended Claim 1. Applicants assert that the amendments to Claim 1 place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons that follow.

Claim 1 was amended to define the composite structural material as being porous. Hansen does not disclose, teach or suggest this property. Accordingly, Applicants assert that there is no apparent reason for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine known elements from the reference in the manner asserted by the Examiner to achieve the invention as defined in Claim 1. Thus, the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and/or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) has been overcome.

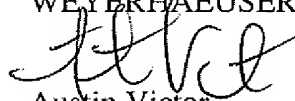
Claims 2-9 depend from Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims are also allowable for the reasons discussed above as they set forth further limitations of their base claim.

### CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and reconsideration and allowance of all claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if there are any remaining issues.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Austin Victor', is written over the printed name.

Austin Victor

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